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Minutes

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SECOND
ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

1954

HELD WITH

MEADOW CREEK CHURCH

STANLY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

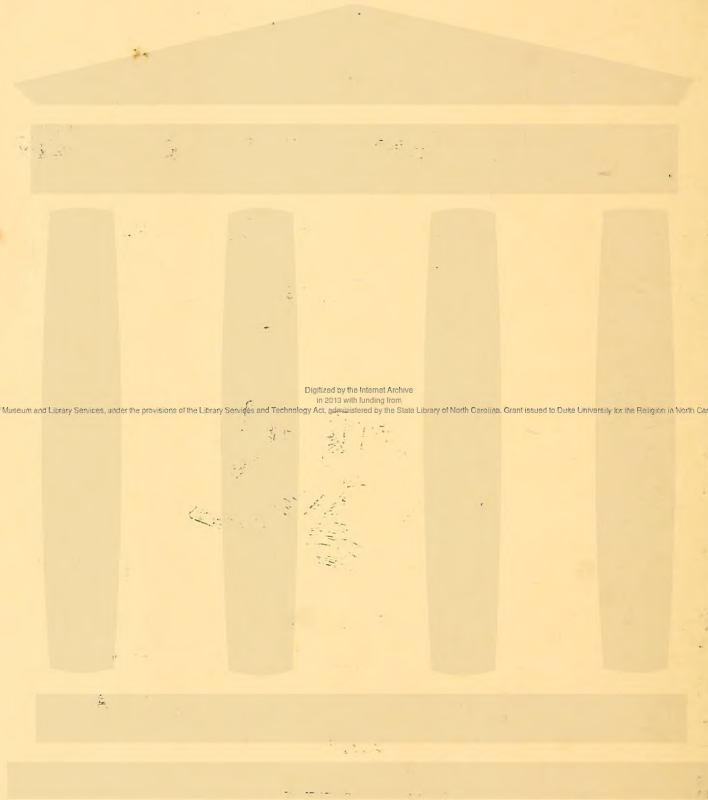
SEPTEMBER, 17, 18, 19, 1954

OFFICERS

ELDER C. M. MILLS, Moderator

J. L. DEESE, Clerk

PRESTON L. HELMS, Assistant Clerk



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BUSINESS PROCEEDINGS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

The Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association met in annual session with Meadow Creek Church, Stanly County, North Carolina, Friday September 17, 1954 and continued through Saturday and Sunday following.

Brethren, Sisters and friends assembled at the stand in the grove about 10 A. M. After engaging in songs of praise Elder J. A. Monsees led in prayer, followed by Elder C. M. Mills, pastor of Meadow Creek Church, delivering the introductory discourse from Matthew 7: 24-29.

After the introductory sermon about one hour was taken for refreshments, after which the Association met in the house and sang songs of praise followed in prayer by Elder E. B. Watts of Cullman, Ga.

Meadow Creek Church, with Ministers, Messengers and Brethren composing the Association, proceeded to business as follows:

Elders C. M. Mills, pastor of Meadow Creek Church, served as moderator, and Brother J. L. Deese, clerk of Meadow Creek Church, served as clerk and called Preston L. Helms as assistant clerk.

1. Extended an invitation to all orderly Baptist who are in peace with their home churches to seats with us.

2. Called for letters of representation from sister churches composing this association, which were handed in, read and their status noted.

Meadow Creek Church was represented by full membership.

Watson: Brethren Preston L. Helms, T. L. Simpson, B. C. Helms and S. C. Helms.

Pleasant Hill: Brethren Rankin Richardson, Barnie Maness, Elsie Auman and Sam Earington.

High Hill: Brethren Earl Presley, Harvey Presley, Johnnie Edwards and Durant Presley.

Liberty Hill: Brethren, Elder H. L. Poplin, John Harwood, Ellis Lambert and Hobart Medlin.

Pleasant Grove: Brethren, Melvin Mills, Marshal Williams, Marvin Nance, and Judge Polk.

Union Grove: Brethren. Ransom Honeycutt, Jeff Taylor, John Barbee and Bryce Baucom.

Mt. Creek: Brethren, Lane Vanhoy, Frank Medlin and G. C. Medlin.

Lawyers Springs: Brethren, Joe Helms, Walter Hasty, Truby High and Tommy Marsh.

Mills Chapel: Brethren, Warren Griffin, Claud Horne, Howard Little and Roy Hardy.

Union: Brethren, T. B. Polk, Guy Johnston, V. H. Solomon and D. F. Morgan.

Bethel: Brethren, R. J. Sommersett, W. T. Bell, Aaron McLamb and R. O. Lewis.

Corinth: Brethren, Ed Peterson and Walter Peterson.

Park View: Brethren, C. L. Parnell, H. G. Cafe, F. C. Willard and H. L. Willard.

High Point: Brethren, Dewey Nelson, Andrew King, J. G. Ward and Dorius Buroughs.

3. Called for petitionary letters. None handed in.

4. Elder C. M. Mills, the moderator, was authorized to appoint committees on preaching and finance.

Committee on preaching: Brethren R. M. Hatley, Claud Hathcock, W. B. Simpson, Cletus Marsh and J. G. Ward.

Committee on finance: Brethren, Norris Hathcock, Frank Medlin, Melvin Mills, Rankin Richardson and Earl Presley.

5. Called on presbyteries to report:

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, JULY 10, 1954

As previously arranged by Pleasant Grove Church Brother Melvin Mills was placed in the hands of a presbytery and ordained to the office of a deacon.

The presbytery consisted of the following: Elders C. M. Mills and Larry Walker; Deacons, S. H. Edwards, Earl Pressley, Howard Edwards, Sletus Marsh, N. D. Hathcock, Frank Medlin, A. E. Broom. C. W. Griffin, J. M. Taylor, T. B. Polk, F. L. Baucom, Loyd Outen, F. O. Helms and Winfred Simpson.

MILLS CHAPEL CHURCH, OCTOBER 17, 1953

On request a presbytery was formed consisting of the following Elders: C. M. Mills, E H. Simpson, and D. B. Willard and Deacons Loyd Outen, D. L. Willard and W. M. Nance, and ordained Brother T. B. Curlee a deacon.

6. Invited visitors from corresponding associations to seats with us:

Silver Creek: Brethren Sam Hartley, K. Crawford and Gene Walton.

Little River of N. C.: Brethren R. D. Woodard, Archie Hatcher, J. D. Stancil, Lanny Johnson, Eddie Honeycutt, Milton Byrd, R. F. Smith, William Wilkins and Elder J. S. Collins.

Little River of Georgia: Not represented.

Mt. Zion: Elder E. B. Watts, Licentiate H. E. Hornsby, Brethren H. J. Watts and J. A. Dendy.

South Arkansas: Not represented.

Sequachie Valley and Collins River: Not represented.

Tennnessee and Nolechucky: Elder Harold Tipton.

Powell's Valley: Brother J. R. Riter and wife.

7. Invited visiting brethren and sisters from sister churches and and associations with whom we do not carry formal correspondence to seats with us.

Original Towaliga of Georgia: Elders A. H. Speir, Elzie D. Speir, and Brother Calvin Mosley.

Echecounee of Georgia: Brother L. C. Nowell and wife.

New River of Virginia: Elders J. S. Harris and wife, D. L. Nester and wife, O. A. Harris and wife, W. L. Gardner and wife, J. D. Hopkins, and Brethren Simon Harris and wife, Early Baker and wife, Lewis Henley and wife, and Sisters Stella Martin and Vergie Quesenberry and Virginia Hylton.

Wetumpkea of Alabama: Sister Leona Spray.

Friendship of Georgia: Elder J. A. Monsees.

Martinsville Church: Elder F. F. Eggleston.

Mill Church: Elder W. H. Lewis.

Daville Church: P. S. Walton.

Maple Shade Church, Va.: Brother E. B. Worrell.

Pilgrims Rest of Florida: Sister A. E. New.

8 Appointed messengers to visit corresponding associations as follows:

Silver Creek: Elders E. H. Simpson and V. V. Willard.

Little River of N. C.: Elder H. L. Poplin, E. H. Simpson and Brother W. B. Simpson.

Little River of Georgia: Elders V. V. Willard and E. H. Simpson.

South Arkansas. Minutes and Messengers if possible.

Mt. Zion of Alabama: Elders H. L. Poplin, E. H. Simpson, and V. V. Willard.

Tennnesssee and Nolechucky: Brethren Ellis Honeycutt, Ellis Lambert, and W. B. Simpson.

Sequachie Valley and Collins River: Elders E. H. Simpson and V. V. Willard.

Powell's Valley: Elders H. L. Poplin and C. M. Mills.

9. By motion it was unanimously agreed to continue correspondence with all churches and associations which we now correspond with.

10. On motion Brother Ellis Honeycutt was appointed to write corresponding letter to be printed in the minutes of this association.

11. Unanimously agreed to adjourn until Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock.

Benediction by Elder Elzie Speir of Conley, Georgia.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Pursuant to adjournment the Association met in the house Saturday at 9:30 A. M.

After singing and prayer by Elder Elzie Speir of Conley, Georgia, continued with business as follows:

12. Called on finance committee to report. Report as follows:

Donations by churches $726.50

Donations by congregations 25.50

13. Agreed unanimously to distribute minutes to corresponding associations as usual.

14. Called for corresponding letter, which was read and unanimously adopted.

15. On motion it was agreed that we hold our next session of The Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association with Watson Church, Union County, North Carolina, beginning Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1955, and continue through Saturday and Sunday following, and that the pastor of Watson Church preach the introductory sermon.

16. On motion unanimously agreed that we have 1100 copies of this minute printed and distributed to churches and associations as usual, and that Preston L. Helms superintend the printing and distribution of same and that he be allowed $90.00 for printing, mailing and clerk's services.

17. Unanimously agreed to distribute funds above that allowed for printing, mailing and clerk's services, to ministers as the finance committee may deem proper.

18. By unanimous agreement the Association returns to God for His Mercy, and to the brethren, sisters and friends of Meadow Creek Church and vicinity for their kind hospitality and entertainment afforded during this session of the Association.

19. Agreed to adjourn to time and place above mentioned.

Benediction by Elder D. B. Willard.

ELDER C. M. MILLS, Moderator,
3130 Central Ave., Charlotte.

J. L. DEESE, Clerk
R-4, Albemarle, N. C.

PRESTON L. HELMS, Asst. Clerk.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Contributions by Churches	$726.50
Contributions by Friends	25.50
TOTAL	752.00

Expenditures

Printing Minutes	$ 60.00
Clerk's Service and Mailing	30.00
Distributed to Ministers	662.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	752.00

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY A. M.

Elder C. M. Mills. Text: Matt. 7: 24-29.

FRIDAY P. M.

Elder O. A. Harris. Failed to get text.
Elder D. L. Nester. Failed to get text.

SATURDAY A. M.

Elder Elzie D. Speir. Text Heb. 8: 7-13.
Elder J. A. Monsees. Text: 2: 13.

SATURDAY P. M.

Elder W. H. Lewis. Text: Luke 23: 42.
Elder J. S. Harris. Text: Romans 8: 14.
Elder E. B. Watts. Text: Mark 8:34.

SUNDAY A. M.

Elder J. S. Collins. Text: Col. 3: 1-3.
Elder R. P. Vass. Text: 1st Peter 1: 22.
Elder Harold Tipton. Text: Heb. 13: 7.

SUNDAY P. M.

Elder V. V. Willard. Text: Phil. 3: 12-13.

Services were held at the following churches: Friday night, Meadow Creek, Liberty Hill and Mountain Creek. Also Saturday night at Meadow Creek, Liberty Hill, Union Grove and Pleasant Grove. Cannot give complete report for lack of information.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder C. M. Mills, 3130 Central Ave., Charlotte, N. C.
Elder V. V. Willard, R-2, High Point, N. C.
Elder D. B. Willard, R-6, Winston-Salem, N. C.
Elder E. H. Simpson. R-4, Concord, N. C.
Elder H. L. Poplin, R-2, Albemarle, N. C.
Elder C. L. Ratcliff, R-2, Monroe, N. C.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder E. B. Watts, R-9, Cullman, Ga.
Lic. H. E. Hornsby.
Elder A. H. Speir.
Elder Elzie Speir, Conley, Ga.
Elder J. S. Harris, Willis, Va.
Elder O. A. Harris, Floyd, Va.
Elder D. L. Nestler, Dug Spur, Va.
Elder W. L. Gardner, Hillsville, Va.
Elder J. D. Hopkins. Hillsville, Va.
Elder J. A. Monsees, Ellenwood, Ga.
Elder F. F. Eggleston, Martinsville, Va.
Elder R. P. Vass, Hillsville, Va.
Elder W. H. Lewis, Ketling, Va.
Elder Harold Tipton, 2419 Parkview Ave., Knoxville, Tenn.
Elder J. S. Collins, Angier, N. C.

CORRESPONDING LETTER

To the ministers and messengers composing the Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association together with all our corresponding and visiting ministers and brethren. Greetings:

It is through the kind and tender mercies of the dear Lord that we have been permitted to meet again in another annual associational meeting and to hear the glorious news that all is well, that sweet peace and fellowship abounds.

To know that our ministers, as well as our corresponding and visiting ministers, are all united. They come preaching that grand and glorious doctrine salvation of poor sinners from wrath to come is by the sovereign grace of our dear Lord. Also the Lord's children will receive blessings here in time if they will obey what the Lord said for them to do.

We welcome our corresponding and visiting ministers and Brethren. We want you to feel that you are among your friends and want you to come and visit us any time you can, for we love you for the truth's sake.

These grand principles were precious to those brethren who organized this Association one hundred and twenty-two years ago, and after these many years it is still precious to us. Any may we, by His grace and love keep these precious truths that we love and cherish down through the years to come so that our children and our children's children may have a place to come in and rest; so they may say that our forefathers have looked after these things so far. Let us continue on.

Humbly submitted in love,

Your Unworthy Brother,

ELLIS HUNEYCUTT.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one living and true God; the Father, the Word and The Holy Ghost.

Article 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, grace and glory, and in relative union with the Divine Word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Article 3. We believe that the scripture of the Old and New Testament contain the only written revealed word of God and the perfect rule of faith and practice for God's Church in her militant state while here on earth.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of election; that God chose His Church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Article 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, the federal head.

Article 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Article 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and His righteousness only.

Article 9. We believe that God's elect or Church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Article 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never really fall away.

Article 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's apjpointment, and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the Supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men. We believe in feet washing as taught by our Saviour in St. John 13: 4-17.

Article 12. We believe that no man, as a minister, has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Article 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and unjust, and a general judgement.

Article 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES GOVERNING THE ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1st. We understand that at whatever church this Association is being held, that it is being held solely under the authority of that church, just as any other regular or monthly conference.

2nd: That the officers and suffrages of that church shall be the officers and voice of the Association, except as that church may deem prudent to request any member of another church to assist in the business transactions of the Association.

3rd. This Association shall have no authority to pass upon any question of a disciplinary nature except it has first been passed upon by the local churches composing this Association; then the work of the churches shall be recognized by the Association.

4th. Any member who endeavors to bring in or inject a disciplinary question that involves fellowship, before it has been passed upon by the local churches. shall be considered out of order by the church with whom the Association is being held, and by the messengers present from the sister churches.

5th. The Association shall be conducted for no purpose other than song, prayer, and preaching services, and no business shall be transacted by the Association except that which is necessary or sets forth the status of each church composing this body in the form of a minute.

IN MEMORIAM

Sacred to the memory of our Brethren and Sisters who have passed away since our last session, whose names and home churches appear below.

Be it resolved, that the Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association mourns with these churches and bereaved families of our great loss in the passing of the dear ones who were so near and dear to us. We bow in humble submission to His holy will.

Also be is resolved, that we spread this Memorial upon the Minutes of this session of our Association.

Names of the deceased and their churches:

Watson—Brethren E. V. Baucom, James A. Helms.

Mt. Creek—Sister Bertie Ellis, Brother Cicero Taylor.

Lawyer's Springs—Sisters Berta Horne, Joanne Saunders.

Pleasant Hill—Brother Leander King.

High Point—Sister Viola Green Willard.

Union Grove—Sisters Ida Baucom, Bertha Baucom, Mrs. Crawford Helms.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES	Received by Exp. & Baptism	Received by Relation	Received by Letter	Restored	Dismissal by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Sunday of Meeting	Contributions
Watson	Elder C. M. Mills	Preston L. Helms, R-3, Marshville, N. C.	3						2	49	4	$ 30 00
Pleasant Hill	Elder V. V. Willard	G. L. Auman, Allreads, N. C.	1						1	43	1	50.00
High Hill	Elder V. V. Willard	Martin C. Mills, R-2, Monroe, N. C.	3							61	1	40.00
Liberty Hill	Elder C. M. Mills Elder H. L. Poplin	Ellis Honeycutt, Oakboro, N. C.		2						89	1	50.00
Pleasant Grove	Elder C. M. Mills	A. E. Broom, R-2, Marshville, N. C.								62	2	65.00
Union Grove	Elder C. M. Mills	Loyd Outen, 1726 Chestnut St., Charlotte, N. C.	1		2			4	3	136	2	99.00
Lawyer's Springs	Elder V. V. Willard	Tommy Horne, Peachland, N. C.	5						2	87	1	50.00
Mills Chapel	Elder D. B. Willard	F. L. Nance, 201 D Ave., Salisbury, N. C.	1						1	47	3	46.00
Mt. Creek	Elder C. M. Mills	G. C. Medlin, 410 Brookwood Ave., Albemarle, N. C.	3		2				2	40	3	35.00
Union	Elder E. H. Simpson	V. H. Solomon, R-2, Gastonia, N. C.								34	1	30.00
Corinth	Elder E. H. Simpson	Walter Peterson, Kings Mountain, N. C.	3						1	10	1	5.50
Park View	Elder D. B. Willard	W. H. Minter, Winston-Salem, N. C.								15	1	17.50
High Point	Elder V. V. Willard	H. M. Willard, Winston-Salem, N. C.	4		1		1	2		117	4	90.00
Meadow Creek	Elder C. M. Mills	J. L. Deese. R4, Albemarle, N. C.	2							58	1	96.00
Bethel	Elder D. B. Willard	M. D. Anderson, Shalotte, N. C.	3					1	2	57	4	22.75
		Donations by Friends										25.50
		Totals	29	2	5		1	7	14	905		$752.00

(Addresses of ministers will be found on page five)